

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 OPR-02 SY-04 NIC-01

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 IO-14 OMB-01 CIEP-02 DRC-01 /161 W

----- 099200

R 121030Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2761

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT ELAB AO

SUBJECT: VIOLENCE FOLLOWS MURDERS OF TAXI DRIVERS

REF: LUANDA 0535

1. IN REACTION TO THE LATEST MURDER OF TAXI DRIVER REPORTED REFTEL, SEVERE DISTURBANCES OCCURRED YESTERDAY IN CAZENGA DISTRICT OF LUANDA (SAME AREA IN WHICH SERIOUS INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN SEPTEMBER, 1972 - SEE LUANDA 0430). ACCORDING TO PRESS 29 INDIVIDUALS (WHITES AND BLACKS) WERE HOSPITALIZED IN WAKE OF INTER-RACIAL CLASH WHICH LEFT 3 UNIDENTIFIED PEOPLE DEAD OF GUNSHOT WOUNDS.

2. AS A RESULT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS, EMERGENCY MEETINGS WERE HELD WITH LEADERS OF TAXI DRIVERS YESTERDAY AFTERNOON ATTENDED BY GOVERNMENT, MILITARY, POLICE AND LABOR AUTHORITIES, TO DISCUSS "PROTECTIVE MEASURES" TO INSURE TAXI DRIVERS' SAFETY. PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT HAS PROMISED TO UNDERWRITE COST OF WHATEVER PROTECTIVE MEASURES (E.G. RADIO INTERCOMS) MAY BE AGREED UPON. GOVERNMENT WILL ALSO SPONSOR SENDING A TEAM TO UNSPECIFIED FOREIGN CITIES TO

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STUDY HOW THEY DEAL WITH SIMILAR PROBLEMS. POLICE HAVE ESTABLISHED

CITY-WIDE CHECK POINTS AT WHICH ALL TAXIS CARRYING FARS MUST STOP SO THAT PASSENGERS MAY UNDERGO IDENTITY CHECK.

3. TAXIS ARE BACK ON JOB TODAY BUT PLAN 2-HOUR WORK STOPPAGE IN AFTERNOON DURING FUNERAL OF LATEST VICTIM OF WHAT EVERYBODY ASSUMES WAS BLACK VENGEANCE.

4. COMMENT: AS LONG AS TAXI DRIVERS ARE 100 PERCENT WHITE, WHILE BULK OF PASSENGERS ARE BLACKS WHO LIVE IN REMOTE, UNLIT NATIVE SECTIONS, NO PROTECTIVE MEASURES WILL SOLVE UNDERLYING PROBLEM WHICH IS LONGSTANDING RACIAL ANIMOSITY. ALTHOUGH WE SEE NO POINT AT THIS STAGE IN OUR BECOMING INVOLVED, IN ANTICIPATION OF PROBABLE REQUESTS FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES FOR INFORMATION ON PRACTICES IN US CITIES, CONGEN WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY SUCH INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DEPARTMENT.
BRIGGS

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